

Florida Oyster Cultch Placement Project

2018 Annual Report

PROJECT SUMMARY

This project enhanced and improved the oyster populations in Pensacola Bay, St. Andrews Bay, and Apalachicola Bay. The improvements included the placement of an estimated total of 42,000 cubic yards of suitable cultch material over approximately 210 acres of previously constructed oyster bars for the settling of native oyster larvae and oyster colonization in three Florida bays. The final sizes and locations for cultch placement were based on environmental conditions within each bay system prior to deployment. Project designs, locations, and the timing of cultch deployment was selected to maximize successful oyster spat settlement and survival.

Trustee Implementation Group(s)	Florida
Implementing Trustee(s)	Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)
Restoration Type(s)	Oysters
Project Status	Monitoring/O&M
Restoration Phase	Early Restoration Phase 3
Multiple Component Project?	Yes
General Location(s)	Florida

KEY PHOTO



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BUDGET SUMMARY

		Florida TIG
		FDEP
Oysters	Authorized Budget	\$ 5,370,596.00
	Funds Received	\$ 5,370,596.00
	Expended	\$ 4,561,800.39
	Funds Received Balance Remaining	\$ 808,795.61
Project Totals	Authorized Budget	\$ 5,370,596.00
	Funds Received	\$ 5,370,596.00
	Expended	\$ 4,561,800.39
	Funds Received Balance Remaining	\$ 808,795.61

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COMPONENT LIST

Pensacola Bay

This component enhanced and improved the oyster populations in Pensacola Bay in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties. The improvements included the placement of approximately 12,000 cubic yards of suitable cultch material over an approximately 60-acre area in the Pensacola Bay system of existing or previously constructed oyster bars for the settling of native oyster larvae and oyster colonization.

Trustee Implementation Group(s)	Florida
Restoration Type(s)	Oysters

St. Andrews Bay

This component enhanced and improved the oyster populations in St. Andrews Bay in Bay County. The improvements included the placement of approximately 12,000 cubic yards of suitable cultch material over an approximately 60-acre area in the St. Andrews Bay system of existing or previously constructed oyster bars for the settling of native oyster larvae and oyster colonization.

Trustee Implementation Group(s)	Florida
Restoration Type(s)	Oysters

Apalachicola Bay

This component enhanced and improved the oyster populations in Apalachicola Bay in Franklin County. The improvements included the placement of a total of approximately 18,000 cubic yards of suitable cultch material over approximately 90 acres of existing or previously constructed oyster bars for the settling of native oyster larvae and oyster colonization.

Trustee Implementation Group(s)	Florida
Restoration Type(s)	Oysters

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Pensacola Bay

COMPONENT DETAILS

General Activity Description

FDEP has completed this project as of October 2016 and is now in the monitoring stage of project. FDEP's 2018 monitoring report on the oyster habitat enhancement in the Pensacola Bay has been delayed due to the impacts of Hurricane Michael in Apalachicola Bay and St. Andrews Bay.

Project Activity Time Frame

Approximate Construction Start Mar-2016

Approximate Construction Duration 6 - 12 months

Planning Activities

Activity	Description	Status	Approx. Start	Date Completed
Public Submittal of Bid Packages and Contract Award	The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) executed an agreement with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) to implement the placement of cultch in Pensacola Bay.	Complete	Aug-2016	Oct-2016
Public Submittal of Bid Packages and Contract Award	Bid protest has been resolved and FDACS has moved forward with cultch placement.	Complete	Nov-2015	Oct-2016
Engineering and Design	The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) worked with local stakeholders and agency representatives to determine preliminary sites for cultch placement in Pensacola Bay.	Complete	Aug-2015	Mar-2016

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Pensacola Bay

COMPONENT DETAILS

Execution Activities

Activity	Description	Status	Approx. Start	Date Completed
Construction	The placement of approximately 20,103 cubic yards of lime rock aggregate on an estimated 88 acres of debilitated oyster reefs in the Pensacola Bay System in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties has been completed.	Complete	Mar-2016	Oct-2016

Post-Execution Activities

Activity	Description	Status	Approx. Start	Date Completed
Monitoring	FDEP's 2018 monitoring report on the oyster habitat enhancement in the Apalachicola Bay has been delayed due to the impact of Hurricane Michael. Monitoring will continue until 2027.	In Progress	Feb-2017	

As-Built Overview

Habitat Footprints

Date Completed	Type of Habitat	Total Habitat	Action Type	Description
10-01-2016	Oyster Reef/Shell Bottom	88 Acres	Enhanced	To enhance and improve the oyster population in the Pensacola Bay System in Escambia and Rosa Counties, approximately 88 acres of shell material was placed on debilitated oyster reefs.

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COMPONENT DETAILS

As-Built

As-Built	Parameters	Date Completed	Comments
Oyster Cultch Placement	Cultch Type	Lime rock aggregate	10-01-2016
	Cultch Volume (cubic yards)	20103	
	New/Existing	Existing	

Monitoring Overview

Monitoring Framework	N/A
Restoration Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Create or enhance oyster cultch areas that are sustained for the expected lifespan and spatial extent of the project.2. Promote oyster settlement, growth, and density for harvestable oyster reefs
Comments	FDEP staff will conduct monitoring of the oyster cultch for 10 years after construction/implementation.

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Pensacola Bay

COMPONENT DETAILS

Other Spatial Survey Monitoring Activity

Monitoring Parameters

Parameter	Info	Approx Start Date	Approx End Date	Frequency	Comments
Area	Create or enhance oyster Cultch areas	02/08/2017	02/07/2027	Post-construction (once every two years for years 2 through 10)	At years 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 the oyster cultch spatial extent is equal to or greater than the design criteria.

Performance Criteria

Target	Target Date	Target Achieved?	Comments
Oyster cultch spatial extent is equal to or greater than design criteria	02/08/2019		

Monitoring Parameters

Parameter	Info	Approx Start Date	Approx End Date	Frequency	Comments
Area	Water Quality	02/08/2017	02/07/2027	Post Construction 1 to 2 times a year for years 1 through 5	Determine water salinity, and dissolved

Performance Criteria

No performance criteria currently available for this parameter

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Pensacola Bay

COMPONENT DETAILS

Oyster Sampling Monitoring Activity

Monitoring Parameters

Parameter	Info	Approx Start Date	Approx End Date	Frequency	Comments
Biomass	Promote harvestable oyster reef	02/08/2017	02/07/2027	Post Construction, 1 to 2 times a year for years 1 through 5, once a year for years 6 through 10	At year 2, the density of harvestable oysters equal to or greater than 100 bags per acre. At years 4, 6, 8, and 10 the density of harvestable oysters is equal to or greater than 200 bags

Performance Criteria

Target	Target Date	Target Achieved?	Comments
At year 2, the density of harvestable oysters is equal to or greater than 100 bags	02/08/2019		

Monitoring Documents/Data

Monitoring Document	Date Submitted	Document Type	Description
NRDA FL Oyster Cultch Monitoring Report 2017	03-19-2018	Interim Monitoring and Adaptive Management Progress Report	2017 Monitoring Report

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Pensacola Bay

COMPONENT DETAILS

Environmental Compliance

Regulatory Requirement	Lead Agency	Status	Documents
Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (USFWS)	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Memorandum from DOI to Panama City Ecological Services Office Re: Informal Consultation Request for the Proposed Oyster Cultch Project, Florida [ESA Section 7 Consultation Initiation and Response] (January 23, 2014)
Coastal Barrier Resources Act (USFWS)		N/A	
Coastal Zone Management Act	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	
Endangered Species Act (NMFS)	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	Complete	Letter from NOAA NMFS to NOAA RC Re: DWH-ERP, Oyster Reef Restoration, Escambia, Santa Rosa, Bay, and Franklin Counties, Florida [ESA Section 7 Consultation Response] (April 4, 2014)
Endangered Species Act (USFWS)	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Memorandum from DOI to Panama City Ecological Services Office Re: Informal Consultation Request for the Proposed Oyster Cultch Project, Florida [ESA Section 7 Consultation Initiation and Response] (January 23, 2014)
Essential Fish Habitat (NMFS)	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	Complete	Memorandum from NOAA NMFS to NOAA RC Re: Results EFH Consultation for the proposed Florida Oyster Clutch restoration project [EFH Consultation Response] (March 17, 2014)
Marine Mammal Protection Act (NMFS)		N/A	
Marine Mammal Protection Act (USFWS)	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Memorandum from DOI to North Florida Ecological Field Office Re: Compliance with Marine Mammal Protection Act [MMPA Determination] (June 4, 2014)

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Pensacola Bay

COMPONENT DETAILS

Environmental Compliance

Regulatory Requirement	Lead Agency	Status	Documents
Migratory Bird Treaty Act (USFWS)	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Memorandum from DOI to Panama City Ecological Services Office Re: Informal Consultation Request for the Proposed Oyster Cultch Project, Florida [ESA Section 7 Consultation Initiation and Response] (January 23, 2014)
National Environmental Policy Act	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Programmatic and Phase III Early Restoration Plan and Restoration Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement. (June 30, 2014)
National Historic Preservation Act	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Procedure for requesting information regarding compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
Rivers and Harbors Act/Clean Water Act	Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)	Complete	

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St. Andrews Bay

COMPONENT DETAILS

General Activity Description

FDEP has completed this project as of June 2016 and is now in the monitoring stage of project which will continue until 2027. FDEP's 2018 monitoring report on the oyster habitat enhancement in the St. Andrews Bay has been delayed due to the impacts of Hurricane Michael in Apalachicola Bay and St. Andrews Bay.

Project Activity Time Frame

Approximate Construction Start Jun-2016

Approximate Construction Duration < 6 months

Planning Activities

Activity	Description	Status	Approx. Start	Date Completed
Public Submittal of Bid Packages and Contract Award	Bid protest has been resolved and FDACS has moved forward with cultch placement.	Complete	Nov-2015	Jul-2016
Engineering and Design	The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) worked with local stakeholders and agency representatives to determine preliminary sites for cultch placement in St. Andrews Bay.	Complete	Aug-2015	Mar-2016
Public Submittal of Bid Packages and Contract Award	The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) executed an agreement with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) to implement the placement of cultch in St. Andrews Bay.	Complete	Apr-2015	Jul-2015

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St. Andrews Bay

COMPONENT DETAILS

Execution Activities

Activity	Description	Status	Approx. Start	Date Completed
Construction	The placement of over 17,000 cubic yards of shell material was completed with over 84 acres of oyster habitat within St Andrews Bay being cultched.	Complete	Jun-2016	Jun-2016

Post-Execution Activities

Activity	Description	Status	Approx. Start	Date Completed
Monitoring	FDEP's 2018 monitoring report on the oyster habitat enhancement in the Apalachicola Bay has been delayed due to the impact of Hurricane Michael. Monitoring will continue until 2027.	In Progress	Feb-2017	

As-Built Overview

Habitat Footprints

Date Completed	Type of Habitat	Total Habitat	Action Type	Description
07-01-2016	Oyster Reef/Shell Bottom	84 Acres	Enhanced	To enhance and improve the oyster population in the St. Andrews Bay, approximately 84 acres of shell material was placed on debilitated oyster reefs.

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St. Andrews Bay

COMPONENT DETAILS

As-Built

As-Built	Parameters	Date Completed	Comments
Oyster Cultch Placement	Cultch Type	Limestone	07-01-2016
	Cultch Volume (cubic yards)	17000	
	New/Existing	Existing	

Monitoring Overview

Monitoring Framework	N/A
Restoration Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Create or enhance oyster cultch areas that are sustained for the expected lifespan and spatial extent of the project.2. Promote oyster settlement, growth, and density for harvestable oyster reefs
Comments	FDEP staff will conduct monitoring of the oyster cultch for 10 years after completion of construction/implementation.

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St. Andrews Bay

COMPONENT DETAILS

Other Spatial Survey Monitoring Activity

Monitoring Parameters

Parameter	Info	Approx Start Date	Approx End Date	Frequency	Comments
Area	Create or enhance oyster Cultch areas	02/08/2017	02/07/2027	Post-construction (once every two years for years 2 through 10)	At years 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 the oyster cultch spatial extent is equal to or greater than the design criteria.

Performance Criteria

Target	Target Date	Target Achieved?	Comments
Oyster cultch spatial extent is equal to or greater than design criteria	02/08/2019		

Monitoring Parameters

Parameter	Info	Approx Start Date	Approx End Date	Frequency	Comments
Area	Water Quality	02/08/2017	02/07/2027	Post Construction 1 to 2 times a year for years 1 through 5	Determine water salinity, and dissolved

Performance Criteria

No performance criteria currently available for this parameter

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St. Andrews Bay

COMPONENT DETAILS

Oyster Sampling Monitoring Activity

Monitoring Parameters

Parameter	Info	Approx Start Date	Approx End Date	Frequency	Comments
Biomass	Promote harvestable oyster reef	02/08/2017	02/07/2027	Post Construction, 1 to 2 times a year for years 1 through 5, once a year for years 6 through 10	At year 2, the density of harvestable oysters equal to or greater than 100 bags per acre. At years 4, 6, 8, and 10 the density of harvestable oysters is equal to or greater than 200 bags

Performance Criteria

Target	Target Date	Target Achieved?	Comments
At year 2, the density of harvestable oysters is equal to or greater than 100 bags	02/08/2019		

Monitoring Documents/Data

Monitoring Document	Date Submitted	Document Type	Description
NRDA FL Oyster Cultch Monitoring Report 2017	03-19-2018	Interim Monitoring and Adaptive Management Progress Report	2017 Monitoring Report

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COMPONENT DETAILS

Environmental Compliance

Regulatory Requirement	Lead Agency	Status	Documents
Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (USFWS)	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Memorandum from DOI to Panama City Ecological Services Office Re: Informal Consultation Request for the Proposed Oyster Cultch Project, Florida [ESA Section 7 Consultation Initiation and Response] (January 23, 2014)
Coastal Barrier Resources Act (USFWS)		N/A	
Coastal Zone Management Act	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	
Endangered Species Act (NMFS)	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	Complete	Letter from NOAA NMFS to NOAA RC Re: DWH-ERP, Oyster Reef Restoration, Escambia, Santa Rosa, Bay, and Franklin Counties, Florida [ESA Section 7 Consultation Response] (April 4, 2014)
Endangered Species Act (USFWS)	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Memorandum from DOI to Panama City Ecological Services Office Re: Informal Consultation Request for the Proposed Oyster Cultch Project, Florida [ESA Section 7 Consultation Initiation and Response] (January 23, 2014)
Essential Fish Habitat (NMFS)	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	Complete	Memorandum from NOAA NMFS to NOAA RC Re: Results EFH Consultation for the proposed Florida Oyster Clutch restoration project [EFH Consultation Response] (March 17, 2014)
Marine Mammal Protection Act (NMFS)		N/A	
Marine Mammal Protection Act (USFWS)	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Memorandum from DOI to North Florida Ecological Field Office Re: Compliance with Marine Mammal Protection Act [MMPA Determination] (June 4, 2014)

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COMPONENT DETAILS

Environmental Compliance

Regulatory Requirement	Lead Agency	Status	Documents
Migratory Bird Treaty Act (USFWS)	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Memorandum from DOI to Panama City Ecological Services Office Re: Informal Consultation Request for the Proposed Oyster Cultch Project, Florida [ESA Section 7 Consultation Initiation and Response] (January 23, 2014)
National Environmental Policy Act	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Programmatic and Phase III Early Restoration Plan and Restoration Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement. (June 30, 2014)
National Historic Preservation Act	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Procedure for requesting information regarding compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
Rivers and Harbors Act/Clean Water Act	Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)	Complete	

Apalachicola Bay

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Apalachicola Bay

COMPONENT DETAILS

Post-Execution Activities

Activity	Description	Status	Approx. Start	Date Completed
Monitoring	FDEP's 2018 monitoring report on the oyster habitat enhancement in the Apalachicola Bay has been delayed due to the impact of Hurricane Michael. Monitoring will continue until 2027.	In Progress	Feb-2017	

As-Built Overview

Habitat Footprints

Date Completed	Type of Habitat	Total Habitat	Action Type	Description
10-01-2015	Oyster Reef/Shell Bottom	130 Acres	Enhanced	To enhance and improve the oyster population in the Apalachicola Bay, approximately 130 acres of shell material was placed on debilitated oyster reefs.

As-Built

As-Built	Parameters	Date Completed	Comments
Oyster Cultch Placement	Cultch Type	Fossilized oyster shell	10-01-2015
	Cultch Volume (cubic yards)	24840	
	New/Existing	Existing	



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COMPONENT DETAILS

Monitoring Overview

Monitoring Framework	N/A
Restoration Objectives	<div>1. Create or enhance oyster cultch areas that are sustained for the expected lifespan and spatial extent of the project.</div> <div>2. Promote oyster settlement, growth, and density for harvestable oyster reefs</div>
Comments	FDEP will conduct monitoring of the oyster cultch for 10 years following construction/implementation.

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COMPONENT DETAILS

Other Spatial Survey Monitoring Activity

Monitoring Parameters

Parameter	Info	Approx Start Date	Approx End Date	Frequency	Comments
Area	Create or enhance oyster Cultch areas	02/08/2017	02/07/2027	Post-construction (once every two years for years 2 through 10)	At years 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 the oyster cultch spatial extent is equal to or greater than the design criteria.

Performance Criteria

Target	Target Date	Target Achieved?	Comments
Oyster cultch spatial extent is equal to or greater than design criteria	02/08/2019		

Monitoring Parameters

Parameter	Info	Approx Start Date	Approx End Date	Frequency	Comments
Area	Water Quality	02/08/2017	02/07/2027	Post Construction 1 to 2 times a year for years 1 through 5	Determine water salinity, and dissolved

Performance Criteria

No performance criteria currently available for this parameter

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COMPONENT DETAILS

Oyster Sampling Monitoring Activity

Monitoring Parameters

Parameter	Info	Approx Start Date	Approx End Date	Frequency	Comments
Biomass	Promote harvestable oyster reef	02/08/2017	02/07/2027	Post Construction, 1 to 2 times a year for years 1 through 5, once a year for years 6 through 10	At year 2, the density of harvestable oysters equal to or greater than 100 bags per acre. at years 4, 6, 8, and 10 the density of harvestable oysters is equal to or greater than 200 bags

Performance Criteria

Target	Target Date	Target Achieved?	Comments
At year 2, the density of harvestable oysters is equal to or greater than 100 bags	02/08/2019		

Monitoring Documents/Data

Monitoring Document	Date Submitted	Document Type	Description
NRDA FL Oyster Cultch Monitoring Report 2017	03-19-2018	Interim Monitoring and Adaptive Management Progress Report	2017 Monitoring Report

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COMPONENT DETAILS

Environmental Compliance

Regulatory Requirement	Lead Agency	Status	Documents
Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (USFWS)	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Memorandum from DOI to Panama City Ecological Services Office Re: Informal Consultation Request for the Proposed Oyster Cultch Project, Florida [ESA Section 7 Consultation Initiation and Response] (January 23, 2014)
Coastal Barrier Resources Act (USFWS)		N/A	
Coastal Zone Management Act	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	
Endangered Species Act (NMFS)	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	Complete	Letter from NOAA NMFS to NOAA RC Re: DWH-ERP, Oyster Reef Restoration, Escambia, Santa Rosa, Bay, and Franklin Counties, Florida [ESA Section 7 Consultation Response] (April 4, 2014)
Endangered Species Act (USFWS)	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Memorandum from DOI to Panama City Ecological Services Office Re: Informal Consultation Request for the Proposed Oyster Cultch Project, Florida [ESA Section 7 Consultation Initiation and Response] (January 23, 2014)
Essential Fish Habitat (NMFS)	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	Complete	Memorandum from NOAA NMFS to NOAA RC Re: Results EFH Consultation for the proposed Florida Oyster Clutch restoration project [EFH Consultation Response] (March 17, 2014)
Marine Mammal Protection Act (NMFS)		N/A	
Marine Mammal Protection Act (USFWS)	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Memorandum from DOI to North Florida Ecological Field Office Re: Compliance with Marine Mammal Protection Act [MMPA Determination] (June 4, 2014)

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COMPONENT DETAILS

Environmental Compliance

Regulatory Requirement	Lead Agency	Status	Documents
Migratory Bird Treaty Act (USFWS)	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Memorandum from DOI to Panama City Ecological Services Office Re: Informal Consultation Request for the Proposed Oyster Cultch Project, Florida [ESA Section 7 Consultation Initiation and Response] (January 23, 2014)
National Environmental Policy Act	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Programmatic and Phase III Early Restoration Plan and Restoration Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement. (June 30, 2014)
National Historic Preservation Act	Department of the Interior (DOI)	Complete	Procedure for requesting information regarding compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
Rivers and Harbors Act/Clean Water Act	Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)	Complete	

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PROJECT CONTACTS

Name	Title	Organization	Phone	Email	Location	Project Role(s)
Pearce Barrett	NRDA Project Coordinator	Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)	(850) 245-2106	pearce.barrett@dep.state.fl.us	Tallahassee, FL	Project Manager
Jim Reynolds	NRDA Project Contact	Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)	(850) 245-2814	James.Reynolds@dep.state.fl.us	Tallahassee, Florida	Technical Project Contact